

CONGRESS FEELS THE WRANGLE

"HOME FRONT" WAVERING AS HUN PEACE IS MIED

Premiers of Britain, France and Italy to Meet in Paris for Joint Restatement of Their War Aims.

TEUTON RADICALS REBELLIOUS

Bolsheviks Reported Preparing to Use Chaos as Weapon Against Germans by Adopting Guerrilla Tactics in Wilderness.

London, Jan. 7.—Germany's great diplomatic peace steam roller is badly stalled for the moment at least.

First, the Bolsheviks threw a spoke into its wheels by their refusal to be trapped, and now the empire's "home front" is wavering.

The Socialists, majority and minority wings alike, have come out solidly and unequivocally against the "camouflage" clause on annexation. They side with the Russians on this issue.

Allies Prepare Next Stroke.

In this critical interim, while Berlin is once more engulfed by a violent political battle, the allies are getting ready for the next stroke in their diplomatic counter-offensive, opened by Premier Lloyd George's war aims speech yesterday.

The premiers of Britain, France and Italy, it was authoritatively stated, are getting ready for a momentous conference at Paris, preparatory to issuing a joint restatement of the three powers' war aims.

Meanwhile, at Russian army headquarters in the field, a war council is being held. Steps are being discussed that may lead to a resumption of the war.

It is a fact that the Russian army is in a position to resume their campaign toward the west.

This, it is believed, is the only way the Italian situation can be saved.

If the invaders are able to hold the dominating positions they now occupy between the Asiatic Plateau and the upper Piave during the coming weeks, it is inevitable that when conditions make possible the resumption of their major offensive in the north they will smother the Italian army.

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PAVE FRONT NEW CENTER OF ACTIVITIES

War Office Reports Indicate Preparations for Offensive in the North.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald and New York Tribune.

London, Jan. 7.—"At some point British patrols have forced the Piave and caused alarm in the enemy's lines." This statement in the official communiqué issued by the Italian war office tonight is construed by military critics here as forecasting important developments on the Piave front in the immediate future.

For several days the British units have shown extraordinary activity along the Middle Piave, time and again making successful thrusts across the river in co-operation with French and Italian fliers and supported by the concentrated fire of their own and their allies' batteries.

The wording of the Italian report leaves it uncertain whether British troops now hold positions on the eastern bank of the Piave, or whether the operations referred to consisted merely of raids into the enemy's lines from which the British returned after inflicting damage and taking prisoners.

Huns Not Ready.

While there has come an end to the heavy snowstorms of last week, the Teuton armies on the northern mountain front have by no means escaped the perils which the locking of their main lines of communication presented. It is extremely doubtful if they now are, or will be within weeks, in a position to resume their campaign toward the west.

This, it is believed, is the only way the Italian situation can be saved.

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Teuton Press Gagged By Censorship Rules; Must Slur Pershing

State Department Publishes Series of Secret Berlin Orders Strictly Governing Newspapers—Interests of Kaiser's War Party Guarded—Popular Unrest Taboo.

Censor's Do's and Don'ts For the Press in Germany.

Should belittle size of Pershing's force. Must not stir up labor discontent. May print demands of Socialists if adversely commented on. Must not print news of popular excesses and unrest. May print only official reports on debates in Austrian Parliament.

Must not disclose movement through Germany of Russians sent back to Russia for pro-German propaganda. Must not disclose importations of food from Holland and other neutral countries.

May print articles from enemy papers on collapse of Russia. Must not print letters from the front discussing politics. Must not print anything about fires at aviation camps. Should emphasize Austrian successes on Italian front. Must not compare trade figures with those of peace times. Must not give expression to "sentiments hostile to Germany."

Should emphasize more strongly that there is no justification for enemy statements that submarine warfare has failed. Should emphasize failure of enemy offensives on all fronts.

Sensational evidence of the extent to which the Prussian government has subjugated the press of Germany to the interests of the Kaiser and his war party has been supplied to the Department of State.

Copies of secret and drastic regulations issued to German editors show not only that the German newspapers are prohibited from printing news that is bad, but are required to comment only in terms of praise on events of military and political nature.

Concerns Pershing's Force.

Among the regulations issued is the following setting forth how the German papers must comment on the dispatch of Pershing's expedition to France:

"Pettit Parisien (a Paris newspaper) informs us that five American divisions, numbering 125,000 men, may be expected in France in the autumn of 1917. It is urgently requested not to reproduce this information without some comment.

"We do not wish to underestimate the ability of America to accomplish things, but we must not, on the other hand, overestimate it. In order to bring a division over from America, 75,000 tons must make the trip twice. Therefore, from the mere fact of lack of space, the transportation of such a body of troops within certain fixed time limits is impossible. Moreover, it is impossible to train these troops properly by autumn.

On the other hand, which have recently been discussed in the German war news, cannot be too strongly emphasized in the discussion of the French news."

Another regulation reads:

"While the news about America's war preparations, such as the organization and outfitting of an army 1,000,000 strong to re-enforce the French-English front, is looked upon, in this form, as 'bad,' the spreading of which may unfavorably affect the opinion of the German people, yet the fact must not be overlooked, on the other hand, that the United States, with the support of its capacity for material and industrial management, is arming itself for war with great energy and tenacity.

"The war preparations in America are therefore, as was intimated in the Reichstag at the time, not at all to be made little of, but must be taken seriously without on that account being made a source of worry."

Still another says: "It is desired that it should be clearly and distinctly put in the foreground that the enemy offensive has utterly failed on all fronts, that the entente has no alternative but to attempt a new offensive as the enemy's statements are still against peace."

Continued on page three.

BILLY AND MA VISIT TUMULTUOUSLY, DANIELS, BAKER

Revivalist Fails to See President, but Shakes Hands with Many Workers.

By ARTHUR JOYCE.

There were no revival services at the tabernacle yesterday, but Billy Sunday and Ma weren't idle. Not by a jugful!

The strenuous evangelist, Mrs. Sunday and every member of the official party talked at a big gathering of ministers and laymen in the First Congregational Church in the morning. And in the afternoon Billy and Ma went "sightseeing," while the other Sunday campaigners stayed at home and rested up a bit.

The "sightseeing" trip included visits to the White House and the State, War and Navy departments. Billy and Ma went in their own limousine, with its American flag draped at the side windows and its service flag, in honor of "son George," who is an officer in the United States Aviation Corps, at the rear.

Billy Invites 'Em All.

The noted evangelist and his wife met Secretary of War Baker, Secretary of the Navy Daniels, and Joe Tumulty, executive secretary of the President, at the White House.

"Anybody working to help Uncle Sam win this war against that dirty bunch overseas," remarked Billy as he got friendly with the attaches, "can have anything they want over at the Tabernacle. Best seats in the house are yours for the asking."

Billy and Ma didn't get to President Wilson. He was attending an important conference and Billy said he'd call again Secretary Tumulty, who the visitors in tow and showed them the executive offices and several of the White House rooms.

Old Pals Meet Again.

Sunday and Tumulty are old friends. They met while Billy was conducting a revival in Trenton, N. J., which was Secretary Tumulty's idea. Since then they have been associated with Governor Woodrow Wilson, of New Jersey.

It was a case of "Hello, Joe," and "Howdy, Billy," and the pair were soon in a deep confab talking over old times. Secretary Tumulty explained that the President was "engaged" at an important conference, and Billy replied:

"That's all right, Joe. I'll just look around a bit while I'm here and I'll sure call again to pay my respects to Mr. Wilson. He's got a mighty hard job on his hands just now, and it's a wonder to me he is able to be so completely on his feet, so great is the responsibility that's been put up to him as the head of the world's greatest nation."

So Secretary Tumulty took Billy and Ma through the executive offices of the State Department and showed them about all that's to be seen.

"World's Greatest Man."

"Great place, this," commented Billy. "And so here's where the great man in the world today does his work, eh? Well, say, this is one of the most sacred spots I've ever been in. God bless the President and his Cabinet and everybody that's got anything to do with running this what of a country of ours."

Billy and Ma shook hands all around and then drifted over to the State, War and Navy Building. Secretary of State Lansing was not in his office when the visitors called. But Billy shook hands some more and grinned like a kid at first sight of the tree on Christmas morn.

"Howdy, folks," was his greeting to the attaches and the cops and the guards. They closed in around Billy and Ma for a close-up view and Billy was for shaking hands all around.

Secretary of War Baker greeted Billy and Ma enthusiastically and for Ma the Secretary had attended the opening meeting of the Sunday campaign and he expressed himself as being "surprised" at the remarkable vitality of the evangelist. Mr. Daniels, chairman of the central committee and of its executive committee. Other members are L. R. Stuart, J. P. Stephenson, W. Hamilton Smith and Bernard L. Groves.

Ad Campaign Reaction.

A page advertisement was inserted by J. Maury Dove, Jr., in an afternoon paper yesterday, signed "Centralization committee of ten of the coal dealers of the District of Columbia." It absolved coal dealers of blame for the coal situation and criticized the Fuel Administration.

Members of the centralization committee denied they had authorized the advertisement, which caused Mr. Weaver, to demand of Chairman Fidelity "a full explanation from the coal merchants of the facts and circumstances."

This explanation must be given, he said, before he could consider the pooling arrangement.

"Any organization of coal dealers that will serve the public in this emergency, must be able to command the loyalty of the coal merchants of the city," said the administrator. "This publication, signed in this manner without your knowledge or the knowledge of your committee, indicates that as yet your organization does not command adequate loyalty and support."

Mr. Weaver's letter was read to the meeting by Mr. Fidelity.

This advertisement was not

Continued on page five.

ISSUE SPLITS SENATE; ROADS LAUNCH ATTACK

Hiram Johnson, Backed by Progressives of Both Parties, Declares for Permanent Federal Control.

"OLD GUARD" FOR RESTORATION

Kruttschnitt and Thom Assail President's Three-year Compensation Basis, Predicting Mass of Litigation Will Follow.

President Wilson's railroad program yesterday plunged into a legislative turmoil that threatens not only to delay it considerably, but actually to mar it.

Two fights were launched upon it in Congress, one by the railroads and one by a determined group of Senators.

Railroad executives, headed by A. P. Thom, their counsel, and Julius Kruttschnitt, of the Southern Pacific, led an assault on the President's three-year-average compensation plan. It was indicated they will have the backing of most of the roads.

Two Factions Develop.

Senators split into two factions over the question of permanent government ownership, each faction being bi-partisan.

Following Senator Hiram Johnson's announcement that he would fight to make government control permanent, Republicans of the "Old Guard" caucus and decided to block him. Consequently, Senators Watson and Gallagher came out with amendments to the administration bill. Both would amend the last section, which keeps the railroads until Congress shall return them to their owners. Watson would have the roads held six months after the end of the war, but Gallagher wants them returned immediately at the war's conclusion.

Senator Johnson will have the support of the progressive Republicans, such as Cummings of Iowa, and others, besides the aid of prominent Democrats. On the other hand, Watson and Gallagher will rally Democrats as well as Republican supporters.

Forces Roads' Hand.

The significance of the railroad attack on the compensation plan was pointed out by Senator Pointe in yesterday's session of the Interstate Commerce Committee.

While questioning Mr. Kruttschnitt, Senator Pointe brought out the fact that the railroad bill gives the roads opposing the plan the right of appeal to the Court of Claims. Mr. Kruttschnitt said that unless some plan was found that appealed to all the roads as being fair, a great mass of litigation would follow government control.

Kruttschnitt lodged two objections against President Wilson's plan. He declared some provision should be made to reimburse roads for money invested in their property since the end of the fiscal year 1917, last June 30, which the bill does not now include. He also asserted that it was not fair to include the fiscal year 1915 in the average compensation scheme, because in 1915, said, was an exceptionally bad year.

Fair, Cummins Thinks.

"But were not 1916 and 1917 exceptionally good years?" asked Senator Cummins.

When Kruttschnitt admitted that, Senator Cummins declared it seemed to him only fair to include 1915.

Kruttschnitt insisted 1915 was far below normal, and Senator Cummins thereupon asked him to name a normal year for railroad earnings. When Kruttschnitt hesitated, Senator Cummins asked if he would say any year as far back as 1912 was a normal railroad year. Kruttschnitt said 1912 was the best, but even it was not very good.

Senator Cummins was satisfied to pass the point, after showing that the roads will receive from the government about \$262,500,000 a year unless the three-year averaging plan.